

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-18 and 38-40 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-18, and 38 are rejected. Claims 39 and 40 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1, 3-18, and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Powell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,954,303) in view of Teumac et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,465,065).

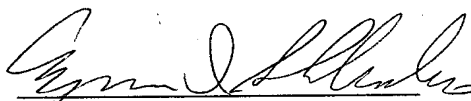
Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Powell et al. in view of Teumac et al. as above and further in view of Cook (U.S. Patent No. 6,933,046).

The examiner indicated that claim 1 would be allowable if properly rewritten to include the limitations of claim 17 and 18 and to recite that the polymeric layer is permeable to water. Applicants have amended claim 1 as indicated by the examiner. Hence, applicants believe that claim 1 is now allowable and that the remaining claims are also allowable because they depend from claim 1 directly or indirectly and include the limitations of claim 1.

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that the claims in their present form are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this communication to Eastman Kodak Company, Deposit Account No. 05-0225.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.